

**CALFED Policy Group  
Meeting Summary  
December 17, 1998**

**1. Draft Preferred Alternative/Phase II Report**

- Staff provided a general overview and status of the Revised Draft Phase II Report and the Babbitt/Dunn discussions. All stakeholders are still participating in the process and indicating endorsement of the Revised Draft Phase II Report, although with varying degree of reservations.
- The agenda item was for information purposes only. The report had been finalized and sent to the printer to meet the deadline for distribution on the 18<sup>th</sup> for the press event.
- Concerns and questions raised about how the report describes the status of storage and the 404 process.
- Public workshops are scheduled in January 1999 in five locations to present the Revised Draft Phase II Report and answer questions on the status of the Program and the next steps.

**2. FY 1999 Special Support Programs**

- Staff provided information on funding needed to support CALFED activities from Federal Bay-Delta Act funds. An additional \$1.751 million, over the 1998 funding received, is needed for several Special Support Programs. Staff will continue to work with the BDAC Ecosystem Roundtable to describe the purpose and justification for the funding. CALFED will ask for approval of the funding requested at the February CALFED Policy Group meeting.

**3. Restoration Coordination**

- Staff provided information of the 1999 funding/spending plan, the schedule for developing designated actions and the schedule for releasing a 1999 Proposal Solicitation Package.
- Several policy issues were presented by staff to Policy Group including cost-share issues and fish screens in Suisun Marsh.
- No final approvals or decision were made. Staff will bring details to the next Policy Group meeting for a "recommended approval."

4. **1999 Actions**

- Staff provided an overview of the upcoming effort in 1999. Many items were identified in the Phase II Report that need further refinement or completion in 1999. Staff will review the commitments and provide a 1999 workplan to the Policy Group at the next meeting.

5. **Long-Term Joint Point**

- Policy Group discussed the concerns with developing a broad authority for joint point of diversion. USBR is proceeding with a request to the SWRCB on the issue of long-term joint point in coordination with the other interested CALFED agencies. Evidence related to this issues may be in the spring of 1999. Concern was raised that this issue will need a lot of development before the time of the hearings.

6. **1999 Operations Plan**

- Current estimates by the USBR are that the impacts of in-Delta actions could be up to 138,000 acre feet in 1999. USBR is still developing water acquisition/ options to cover this loss.

7. **Good bye's**

- We all said a sad good bye to several of the state CALFED representatives. It was a bit "rocky" at times but we got through the sensitive moments.